THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE, MONDAY, MAY 15, 1871.

The Chicago Tribune.

VOL. 24. CHICAGO, MONDAY, MAY 15, 1871. NO. 283.

WASHINGTON.

No Treaty to be Reported to the Senate To-Day for Ratification.

Amendments to be Agreed to in Executive Session.

The Territorial Government to be Organized on Tuesday.

The Colored Population of the United States, 4,857,000.

THE TREATY.

WASHINGTON, May 14.—The Committee on Foreign Affairs of the Senate met this morning at 11 o'clock to report to the Senate to-morrow morning at 11 o'clock. It will be signed by Messrs. Cheverly, Sherman, Frelinghuysen, Conkling, and Schurz, Republicans, and Davis and Casserly, Democrats, of the Committee. Mr. Fish will not sign the report, however, but will submit his views separately. It is the intention of the Committee to report the treaty without amendments, but there is a strong probability that one or two reservations will be made. The Committee will not make a report of any length, however, but will confine their suggestions to the executive action of the Senate. [Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

WASHINGTON, May 14.—The Committee on Foreign Affairs, this morning, determined to report the Treaty without amendments, but with several of its features. They will not make a lengthy report, however, but will confine their suggestions to the executive action of the Senate. It is understood that the Committee will not agree to report a single amendment, but that the treaty will be finally ratified without even the slightest change. Mr. Fish will submit his views separately. It is understood that the Committee will report that the treaty be ratified before the 1st of June, and that the Senate will be asked to meet on that day for the purpose. The Committee will meet at 11 o'clock to-morrow morning, when the report will be signed and presented to the Senate. It is understood that the Committee will not

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INVESTIGATING THE NEWSPAPERS.

The Senate of the United States has engaged in another investigation of the most ridiculous character. The treaty prepared by the Joint High Commission has been amply discussed through the newspapers, and, in the first instance, through the New York Tribune, and the Senate has appointed a committee to find out how it was done, and how it is that all other business of the Senate, done in secret session, is made public. Every two or three years we have an investigation of this kind which ends in nothing.

President Polk sent a thing, commissioners to Mexico to negotiate a treaty of peace. Two months after arrival, Mr. Polhemus's Trial had electrified Mexico, a treaty making power existed since 1824, a period of thirty-two years, and nearly a million of dollars have already been expended in purchasing grounds and erecting the new Capitol. Still, if it can show that the interests of the State will in no way be prejudiced by the removal of the capital to Peoria or some other town, the change ought to be made before any more money is expended on the new State House.

THE LAST PRIZE-FIGHT.

The recent fiasco of the two brutes, Mace and Coburn, in Canada, will do much to put an end to prize-fighting than a hundred actual battles. The assemblage was remarkable, even of its kind. It was a representative of a gathering of the most abandoned ruffians on the continent, ruffians without a redeeming trait of decency or manliness. They were not prize-fighters, nor were they the ordinary roughs who engage in bloody and fierce encounters; but they were of that other and more infamous class who prowl in the dark, sneaking and cowardly, the weak and defenceless, and who pervade their business to prey in a manner unknown to natures of higher instincts. It is doubtful if the history of the United States can furnish a parallel to the assemblage at Coburn. Any information he might possess or obtain, therefore, he was at liberty, as a journalist, to make public. Having stated himself that the person of whom he obtained the paper was not bound by any official oath or obligation to secrecy, there was no impropriety in his receiving that information from such person. Neither himself nor his informant were answerable to any law or to any rule of the Senate touching proceedings upon treaties secret, and he was not bound by propriety to forfeit the authority of the Senate to compel him to violate the confidence under which he had received the paper.

There are several other matters, however, which the Senate, if of an inquiring mind, might profitably investigate. There is the case of Senator Osborn, of Florida, charged with pocketing legislation for his own benefit, and trafficking in such legislation with outside persons. Then the Senate might investigate the charges against Mr. Sumner, made public, at his own repeated request. Then there is the case of Sumner's deposition—who originated it? Senator Howe, though he offered the resolution to appoint, denies that he was the instigator, and he has also denied that the President was the author of it. Who, then, did originate the matter? Nobody has had the courage to avow himself the originator, and the Senate might spend the summer as profitably investigating this mystery as in trying to find out who garnished the treaty.

Questions of this kind are easy enough to inquire to be sure, but the history of the seven Republican Senators who voted against the Alabama Claims Treaty, after their reasons were made public, and through whose procurement. Other Senators might inquire, also, but it has been so frequently the fact that they, in secret session, pervert the instructions of his friends, or defeat the purposes of his friends, that the Senate might investigate the entire absurdity of expecting the newspapers not to publish accounts of acts, votes, speeches, and proceedings in executive sessions and in secret, so long as Senators hasten to tell the whole story as they have themselves egotistically glorified for their particular action. In the matter of the publication of this treaty, but little harm has been done; on the contrary, the country will rather approve of the publishing. The only thing, also, almost of the treaty wisely and properly prepared and furnished to the papers. Copies of it were to be laid, as soon as possible, before the Parliaments of the British American Provinces and on Monday the British Foreign Secretary declared that, as soon as received, he would lay a copy of it before the two Houses of Parliament. There is nothing in the treaty, either as affecting personal or national rights requiring secrecy; nothing the treaty could do that needs general legislation by the United States and by the British and Provincial Parliaments, making its publication a matter of necessity. In a matter of such great importance, affecting the interests and rights of the people of the United States and also of the Provinces, secrecy would be out of place. It belongs to the Senate to approve or reject the treaty, but the whole people have the right to know what the treaty contains and to express their judgment upon it. Secret, except in time of war, or of great national danger, there or under any form of government, little or no reason why matter should not be subject to open scrutiny, as well as by official inquiry upon the senate and people.

THE STATE HOUSE QUESTION.

The Springfield and Peoria papers are quarrelsomely disputing each other's claims to be the capital of Illinois. The Peoria Transcript thus defends itself against the charge of extravagance:

> That it may be regarded open to ridicule for its extravagance in asking for a million dollars for a State House in Peoria, we admit; but we do not think it will be considered so when the circumstances are understood. The people of Peoria have already subscribed $300,000, including existing appropriations, which have referred only to the Capitol building, while all the State House buildings elsewhere have been erected by individual subscriptions. Besides, Peoria pays a large proportion of the State taxes, and is entitled to a return of a portion of the money in the shape of a State House. It is also a fact that the people of Peoria have already subscribed $100,000 for the purpose of building the State House, and they are willing to subscribe $1,000,000 more, making the total $1,100,000, if the State will locate the Capitol here. We do not think that the people of Peoria will be satisfied to take less than this amount, and we do not think that the people of the State will be satisfied to have the Capitol located here for less than this amount. If it were not for the fact that the people of Peoria have already subscribed $100,000 for the purpose of building the State House, we would not ask for more than $1,000,000 for the purpose of building the State House.

The tax-payers of Chicago will be called upon, next winter, to pay more than half a million on account of the canal-deepening job. In 1863 the engineers estimated the cost of work between the Illinois River and Lockport at $1,500,000. In 1865 the estimate was raised to $2,000,000. In 1867 this estimate was raised to $3,000,000, and the Canal Trustees borrowed two and a half millions of dollars. In 1869 it was discovered that the work would require three millions to complete it, and the Canal Trustees borrowed another million of dollars. But it seems, from the statement of the Board of Public Works, that Gov. Oglesby seems to have been the special favorite. They were rushed on to his nomination. He was not to fight, but was to entice and inveigle his opponent into close quarters, and kill him. Mace is a professional prize-fighter. Apart from the brutal character of his business, he has had a reputation for cowardice, of the pugilistic sort, and for utter adherence to the laws by which both parties to a prize-fight are bound. He has fought several times, and neither honor or victorious has come through with the credit of being as honest and straightforward as a prize-fighter is expected to be.

It was determined, evidently, to kill him. His pluckiness and brute courage, and the opposition of the Coburn authorities, saved him. But though he was not murdered, the fact that such was the intention, and that it was deliberately planned and prepared for beforehand, shows that even among prize-fighters the last remains of honor and manliness have been lost, and that those who have sunk to the lowest depths of depravity. There was a time when, in England, there was a kind of pride and chivalry about the prize-ring. The man who would violate it, the ring, or who would procure others outside to intervene to defeat the fair fight, would be hissed out of the profession. On the principle of "honor among thieves," there was a strong moral doctrine of fair play which governed all these brutal exhibitions. Put the last history of the old English prize-fighting have shown a rapid degeneration in the character and accumulation in a proper proportion of the brutality. This last affair has been the culmination of the depravity of the whole business, and the surest move of the pugilistic fraternity. Now, it is to be hoped, will instruct the State of Illinois to permit no further meeting, in any part of this country, for any such purpose. The prize-fight itself is sufficiently brutal in and of itself to entitle publishers; and to this is added the cowardice, murder of all the unhanged villains, assassins, thieves, and burglars of the country, or course, it is time that the public authorities should interpose force, and in the most summary manner terminate the whole business. The Governor of Canada or of any State should authorize the Sheriff or proper officer of every county, wherein such an assemblage is to take place, to call out a sufficient force of armed men, not only to prevent the fight, but to arrest and keep every person attending such assemblage, and the latter, as well as the principals, seconds, and other participants in the affair, should be imprisoned at least twelve months in the penitentiary. The presence of such a gang as that which attended the Mace-Coburn fight in any part of the country would be more dangerous than John Morgan's raid through Ohio. In these days of railroads and telegraphs, they should have force sufficient to transport them without stint, until this most brutal of all proceedings shall be finally abandoned.

THE ANGLICAN CHURCH QUESTION.

There was a significant debate in the British House of Commons, last Tuesday, on the disestablishment of the Irish Church. Significant, not so much because that step was not acquiesced in by the Liberal of the necessity of such—that cannot be done until the two hundred and eighty-five majority, which now backs Lord Mayo, be changed—as because it was the first occasion on which the question has come up for discussion since the Gladstone Ministry came into power. A few days ago, Sir Wilfrid Lawson, one of the members for Bedford, rose and moved a resolution for the disestablishment of the Church of England, the introduction of which was opposed by Mr. Gladstone, and by him, Mr. Lowe, and several other members of the Government, on the ground that the question was not ripe for discussion. Mr. Gladstone, however, declared that he himself was personally in favor of the disestablishment of the Irish Church. Mr. Disraeli, who is the representative of the Tories, took occasion to express his opinion that such disestablishment would be a great disadvantage to the Church itself, and that the Government would oppose it. The debate was adjourned, and will be resumed on the 16th inst. The Liberal party is divided on the question, and the Government will be sustained by the Tories. The Irish Church is the only one from the Established Church in Ireland, and from that out any Irish Church only in degree and application, not in principle. The principle is equal rights to all things, and most especially to those things which are held sacred by the conscience of the people. Mr. Gladstone, along with other Liberals, that it was wrong to force a protected Church establishment upon the people of Ireland when a majority of those people were drawn to its teachings nor practice. They will also be able to see that it is also wrong to support a Church by government patronage and a government by entangling Church alliances.

The report from Washington that the Berlin Government has refused to transfer to Gen. Greeley, is probably incorrect. It is not likely that he would accept the position, and it is not likely that it would be tendered to him for the purpose of testing his decline it.

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The Prairie Railway.

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Miscellaneous Notices.

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Discovery of the Dead Body—Where Found Arrest.

THE LAW COURTS.

A New Trial Granted in a Libel Suit.

City Taxes—Garnishee in the Criminal Court.

CRIME AND CASUALTY.

Minor Police Commanding the Morning Police Field Officers.

Police Court Before Justice Morrison.

LONDON.

Taxation and Political Parties.

Mr. Lowe and the Tax on Matches.

Mr. Bruce and the Public Houses.

Popular Discontent.

NUREMBURGH.

The Aspect of Rural Germany.

Agriculture, Laborers, and Stock.

Tree Culture—Fish Preserves and Hops.

PENNSYLVANIA.

The Coal Association—Judicial Decisions.

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New Rulings in the Internal Revenue Bureau.

AMUSEMENTS.

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BUSINESS CHANCES.

EDUCATIONAL.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

HELP WANTED—FEMALE.

SITUATIONS WANTED—FEMALE.

BUSINESS NOTICES.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WASHINGTON.

The Treaty with England Reported to the Senate.

Belief That it Will be Ratified Without Amendment.

Inauguration of the Territorial Government for Columbia.

One Thousand War Claims Filed Before the Southern Commission.

Rumors of the Investigation Relative to the Publication of the Treaty.

One More Arraignment in the Baltimore Whiskey Frauds.

LYNCH.

RAILWAY.

KENTUCKY.

THE GOLD.